

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 823  
By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Patty Baxley on her selection as Teacher of the Year at West View Middle School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Patty Baxley is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Patty Baxley has recently been selected by her colleagues as Teacher of the Year at West View Middle School, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, after completing her Associate of Science degree at Walters State Community College, Ms. Baxley received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee and a Master of Science degree from Tusculum College; each of her degrees was awarded with high honors; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baxley has served with acumen and alacrity as a eighth-grade American History and Reading teacher for the past six years; prior to teaching eighth grade, Ms. Baxley taught English at West View for eleven years after teaching for fifteen years at Fairview-Marguerite; and

WHEREAS, always striving to enhance her knowledge and expertise, Ms. Baxley has received additional training at various workshops and conferences, including workshops on bullying, the Tennessee Educational Technology Conference, State Council for Social Studies Conference, Tennessee Instructional Model Training, and National Geographic Map Skills Training; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of the faculty at West View, Ms. Baxley serves on the School Leadership Committee; has served on the Steering Committee for the School Improvement Plan and the Textbook Committee; and has served as a Mentor Teacher and a Supervising Teacher for several student teachers; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baxley has been an integral part of the Hamblen County educational system and holds professional memberships in the NEA, TEA, HCEA, and the Tennessee Council for Social Studies; she has served as the HCEA's Secretary and as a Delegate to the TEA Convention; and

WHEREAS, an active part of her community, Ms. Baxley is a member of Central Baptist Church and the Hamblen County Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baxley is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baxley truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, according to Dr. Dale Lynch, Director of Schools for Hamblen County, "To be recognized as building level Teacher of the Year by one's colleagues is one of the most prestigious honors one can receive," and Ms. Baxley is certainly most deserving of such a singular accolade; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Patty Baxley truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Patty Baxley on being chosen as Teacher of the Year at West View Middle School, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.